

October 14, 2014

Scott Pineo Skamania County Senior Services PO Box 369 Stevenson, WA 98648

Dear Scott,

I am writing to express my support for Skamania County Senior Services' applications to the Washington State Department of Transportation for the following services offered by Skamania County Transportation Services:

- Dial-a-ride program
- Transit Program
- Capital Request to maintain existing services

Skamania County actively participates in the Gorge TransLink Alliance as one of the public transportation providers serving the Mid-Columbia region. Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) has supported a Mobility Management position for the Gorge TransLink Alliance, with funding through ODOT and WSDOT, over the past four and a half years. This position is designed to plan for, and seek mechanisms to implement, coordinated delivery of services on a regional basis. We fully support our public transportation providers in maintaining and expanding services. Skamania County's requests for funding would allow maintenance of a quality fleet of vehicles to serve a rural area with dispersed populations. The fund requests will also allow Skamania County Transportation Services, through its critical demand-response and deviated fixed-route services, to continue to provide transportation assistance to seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low income individuals who need to travel within and outside of the county for employment, medical appointments, shopping and social services.

Thank you for your efforts to improve transportation services in the region. I support your efforts and look forward to continued cooperative and collaborative endeavors supporting communities in the Mid-Columbia region.

Sincerely.

Amanda Hoey

Executive Director



120 NE 136th Avenue, Suite 215 • Vancouver, Washington 98684-0862

Phone 360.694.6577 • Fax 360.694.6716 • www.hsc-wa.org

October 15, 2014

Skamania County Senior Services PO Box 369 Stevenson, Washington 98648

Dear Arlene:

This letter is being provided in support of Skamania County Senior Services (SCSS) grant request to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for continuation of Dial-A-Ride and Transit Program, as well as for its' capitol request for vehicles.

SCSS provides an extremely valuable service to the residents of Skamania County and is an essential partner with the Human Services Council (HSC) in its' operations of the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation program. Without your support, seniors, individuals with disabilities and low-income populations would not be able to live independently and gain necessary access to medical care, employment, shopping and other basic services to meet their needs. Medicaid clients in Skamania, in particular benefit from the services provided by Skamania County Senior Services under its contract with the Human Services Council.

Additionally, to meet the growing demand for transportation in your area, it is essential for SCSS Services to have enough quality vehicles to provide this transport in a safe and efficient manner.

We look forward to continuing our contract and partnership with SCSS and most importantly, to assisting those individuals most in need in Skamania County.

Sincerely,

Colleen Kuhn

Executive Director



City of NORTH BONNEVILLE

P.O. Box 7

North Bonneville, WA 98639

(509)427-8182

Arlene Johnson Skamania County Senior Services PO Box 369 Stevenson, Washington 98648

Subject: Skamania County Senior Services application for funding assistance for the dial-a-ride and transit services

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The City of North Bonneville is in full support of the Skamania County Senior Service's application for operating and capital assistance from Washington State Department of Transportation's [WASHDOT] Dial-a-ride, transit programs, and Capital Transit Fund. The City understands the operating and capital transit funding application reflects a 2013/2014 biennial request.

The grant assistance is fundamental to our community's ability to offer public transportation services to seniors, the disabled, low income and those who cannot legally drive. The City is located approximately one hour from the Portland/ Vancouver MSA and that distance separation impairs many of our citizen's ability to access the metropolitan type services without the presence of these transportation programs. According to the 2010 U.S Census - 61.36 percent of the City's population was designated as low to moderate income and because of the associated financial circumstances these folks transportation options are limited.

The Skamania County Transit Services provides our citizens access to medical, social and financial services in the Portland/Vancouver MSA. Additionally, the Skamania County Transportation program provides the only local public transportation service to and from our City.

We are fortunate that the transit program has been able to reasonably accommodate our citizens who need access to employment, educational, medical and retail. We appreciate the transportation agency's effort to provide the aforementioned services and would hope you will have continued funding adequate to support our City's critical transportation needs.

Very truly yours,

Don Stevens, Mayor

City of Stevenson

(509) 427-5970

7121 E Loop Road, PO Box 371 Stevenson, Washington 98648

Washington State Department of Transportation 310 Maple Park Avenue SE P.O. Box 47300 Olympia, WA 98504-7300

Date: October 15, 2014

Re:

Letter of support for Skamania County Transportation Services

The City of Stevenson is submitting this letter in support of Skamania County Senior Services grant applications for the Dial-a-Ride Program and the Transit Program.

The Dial-a-Ride program provides over 19,000 trips per year to senior citizens in our area, including disabled, low-income, those who cannot legally drive, and the general public who need transportation assistance. This program takes persons to medical, social services, financial appointments, and essential shopping opportunities. The benefit is to provide independent community living. Because Skamania County has limited opportunities for these services many citizens must travel outside of the County to receive them.

The Transit program provides transit services Monday through Friday to the Fisher's Landing Transit Center in Clark County. This service is used to access employment, educational institutions, and shopping opportunities in the metropolitan area. It is also used by recreationists and tourists to visit Skamania County. This service provides approximately 15,000 transit trips per year.

The City of Stevenson has supported these programs financially through the award of Tourism funds to Skamania County Senior Services for these programs.

Skamania County is also requesting two replacement mini-vans for the Dial-a-Ride program and ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) grant for scheduling and dispatching software.

Seeking a grant to help cover the costs of continuing these programs helps minimize the financial impact to Skamania County low and moderate income citizenry that would otherwise bear the financial burden of these programs.

We encourage your favorable response to this urgent need for Skamania County residents.

Sincerely,

rank Cox, Mayor

Oct 1, 2014

Skamania County Senior Services PO Box 369 Stevenson, WA 98648

Dear Arlene:

I am happy to write this letter in support of Skamania County Senior Service's application for Transportation Assistance from the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Skamania County Senior Services provides the only available transportation for most of our tenants with the Dial A Ride Program. Rock Cove Assisted Living is home to over 32 senior and disabled clients that are no longer able to drive and in many cases do not have family that is available to provide transportation to needed medical appointments. Primarily the tenants need to see physicians or specialists and they are often not in the immediate area. Your agency provides the much-needed transportation to get to these appointments, which can often require traveling over thirty miles, each direction.

Rock Cove Assisted Living and the tenants we serve are extremely pleased and appreciative of the transportation you provide. You have made it very easy for our staff and tenants to call and arrange transportation even last minute medical appointments. The tenants at Rock Cove are also very appreciative of the social connection your agency provides by enabling them to get to social engagements and participate in shopping trips and outings.

We are currently showing our support of Senior Services Transportation program by providing a quarterly donation of \$250.00 as well as contracted services for special occasion outings.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you for the wonderful assistance that you provide daily to our tenants.

Sincerely,

Robin Aman, Program Director Rock Cove Assisted Living